

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough review of the present application, and respectfully request reconsideration in light of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. The original claims have been revised to improve claim language. New claims 16-20, corresponding to claims 9 and 13-15, respectively, have been added to provide Applicants with the scope of protection to which they are believed entitled. No new matter has been introduced through the foregoing amendments.

The claim objection is believed overcome in view of the above amendments.

The art rejections relying on *Moran*, *Bremner-Barr*, and *Dobson* are noted. Basically, the Office alleges that the primary reference of *Moran* discloses almost all claim features, except for the packet arrival time and load calculation for which *Bremner-Barr* and *Dobson* are relied on, respectively.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Office's position at least because *Moran* discloses, if at all, no more than

- a high priority queue,
- a low priority queue,
- a priority filter table (CAM) containing address pairs (presumably, source and addresses for each packet), and
- a buffer.

However, as to the original independent claims, the *Moran* reference does not teach any queue coordinator that (i) updates the queue information table based on (ii) a load of a provided STT.

With respect to (i), the flow processor of *Moran* that the Examiner regards as the claimed queue coordinator does not update the reference's CAM table at all. At the very least, the cited portion of *Moran*, i.e., column 27 lines 61-67, does not mention or relate to the reference's CAM table.

With respect to (ii), the flow processor of *Moran* while taking into account the load of the high priority queue (question box between 4014 and 4016 in FIG. 40) does not at all consider the load of the STT provided.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections as formulated in the Office Action are improper and should be withdrawn.

Notwithstanding the above and solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to better define the claimed invention. In particular, amended independent claim 1 now recites, among other things, "a queue coordinator for receiving information on the received packet from the packet classifier, and updating the service queue associated with the STT of the received packet in the queue information table based on a load of the STT of the received packet."

Like original claim 1, amended claim 1 requires that the queue coordinator (i) update the queue information table (ii) based on a load of the STT of the received packet. Amended claim 1 further clarifies that (iii) the information being updated in the table is the service queue associated with the STT of the received packet, which is neither disclosed, taught nor suggested by the applied references, especially *Moran*.

Amended claim 1 is therefore patentable over the art.

The remaining claims, including the new claims, include the same or similar features as/to claim 1, and should be considered patentable as well.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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